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tration. He was chairman of the local committee which made arrangements for the National Arbitration Conference held at Washington in April, 1896. Mr. Hubbard was one of the most active and intelligent of the promoters of the Bell telephone, its success being largely due to his wisdom and energy. Alexander Graham Bell, whose name is always associated with the telephone, was his son-in-law. Mr. Hubbard's early home was in Boston, but, removing twenty-five years ago on account of the climate, he settled in Washington where he continued to reside until the time of his death. He was president of the board of trustees of the Covenant Presbyterian Church, with which he was connected from the time of its organization.

The 19th of December, Peace Sunday, was observed by the pastors of many churches, throughout the nation. We have no means of knowing how many. The peace department of the W. C. T. U., through its local superintendents did much to secure the observance of the day in their several localities. All the ministers in the District of Columbia were invited to devote some part of the day to the consideration of the subject of peace, and a number of them responded and preached strong, timely sermons. In addition to the attention given to the cause on this special day, the Christmas Sunday was also made the occasion, by many pastors, of treating the subject. Peace was also made the topic of special programs in a number of Sunday schools.

On the wires, the cables and in the press the situation in the East has been very critical for the last two weeks. But information just as we go to press indicates that the situation has been much exaggerated. Minister Denby sends word from Peking that the German occupation of Kiau Chau will end when the Chinese government complies with the demands made upon it for the murder of the two German missionaries. The Russian occupation of the harbor at Port Arthur is understood to be merely for winter quarters, in accordance with a treaty between Russia and China. The massing of the British and Japanese fleets at Pe Chi Li is also said to mean nothing, these two nations having some years ago secured from China the right to keep their vessels in those waters. Finally, the last telegrams from Hong Kong and Tonquin deny the French occupation of the island of Hai Nan. We hope, for the honor of civilization, that these last reports may prove true. But, in spite of them, it seems certain that things in the Far East are in a very unsettled state and that the great powers, including Japan, are watching the situation and one another with a good deal of nervousness as well as ambition. We do not expect, however, either war or any immediate attempt to dismember China.

Brevities.

The definitive treaty of peace between Turkey and Greece has been concluded and ratified by both King George and the Sultan.

. . . A bill was passed by the House of Representatives on December 16th appropriating \$175,000 for the relief of the people who are in the Yukon river country.

. . . From the report of Consul-General Haywood at Honolulu to the State Department it seems that there are less than 25,000 Japanese in Hawaii, less than half of whom are employed on the sugar plantations.

. . . The world's production of gold in 1896, according to the forthcoming report of the director of the mint, was \$203,000,000. The silver produced during the same period had a commercial value of \$111,278,000, the coinage value of which was \$213,463,700.

. . . A joint resolution accepting the invitation of Norway to participate in an international fisheries exposition next year was passed by the Senate December 17th.

. . . Mr. Underwood, president of the Alaska Central Railway, says that if Congress grants his road the right of way, he will have trains running from the nearest tide-water to Dawson City by the 15th of June. All the valuable mining land in the Klondyke region is said to be already taken up.

. . . *Concord*, the journal of the (London) International Arbitration and Peace Association, is to begin the new year with several improvements. It will be increased to twelve pages, have a new heading, be printed in larger type, and have some new contributors added to its list. It has been a strong, well-edited journal in the past and we wish it great success in its efforts to increase its usefulness.

. . . Beginning with this month, a new bimonthly review is to be published at Milan, Italy, for the promotion of a better internationalism. Its title is to be *La Vita Internazionale*, and it will be edited by E. T. Moneta, one of the foremost advocates of peace in Italy, assisted by several distinguished writers among the friends of peace.

. . . *La Conference Interparlementaire*, the organ of the Interparliamentary Peace Union, which has been edited by Dr. Gobat, secretary of the Interparliamentary Bureau, at Berne, is to be discontinued for lack of financial support. It has been published for four years and has done excellent service. It is much to be regretted that it could not be kept alive.

. . . The heirs of Mr. Alfred Nobel, though worth millions themselves, are contesting his will, being especially opposed to that portion of the legacy devoted to the cause of peace.

. . . Rev. T. A. Leonard, pastor of the Congregational Church, Colne, Lancashire, England, has started a Boys' Lifeguards' Brigade in connection with his church. Its aim is "to advance Christ's Kingdom amongst boys, by teaching them to be obedient, reverent, to help others, to forgive injuries, to be unselfish, and at all times to live at peace with others."

. . . The reciprocity negotiations with both Germany and France are at a standstill. There is little disposition to make material concessions on either side. The negotiations with Great Britain as to the British West Indies are proceeding slowly, but an agreement is not expected at an early date.

. . . In a recent address in Boston, Hon. Charles S. Hamlin, former Assistant Secretary of State, stated that never before in the history of this government had any administration gone so far as the present one in its efforts to bring about a permanent settlement of all questions in difference between the United States and Canada in a manner just and right to all concerned, President McKinley's desire being to wipe out forever all serious differences which from time to time cause irritation.

. . . Bishop Willis of Honolulu passed last month through Boston on his way home. He stated that a large majority of the people of the islands are opposed to annexation. The electorate, as now constituted, is very much in its favor. The new oath of allegiance has made registration very restricted. Under the old régime there were about 14,000 voters. The new oath requires subscribers to abstain from all attempts to restore the monarchy. Only about 3,000 voters, he said, have taken the oath, about half of them office-holders.

. . . The International Brotherhood League of Washington, D. C. seeks to cultivate the spirit of brotherhood in all sorts and conditions of men. It is doing excellent work among the children in its Sunday afternoon meetings, where the fundamental ideas of kindness and brotherhood are taught.

. . . Through the influence of Mr. Bellamy Storer, United States minister to Belgium, Americans resident in that country will not be required to serve in the civic guard, as they with other foreigners were required to do by the law of September last. By a treaty between the two countries, neither can call upon the citizens of the other for military service. The Belgian government holds that service in the civic guard is not military service.

. . . Mr. Hannis Taylor, ex-minister to Spain, to whose remarkable article in the *North American Review* attention was called in our last issue, has severely denounced the President's message for its indifference to Cuba. He thinks Congress ought firmly and scornfully to reject such a policy of irresolution and non-action as that proposed in this "heartless, selfish message." He has no faith whatever in Spain's pretenses of granting autonomy to the island.

. . . An attempt was made on the 6th of December, by two soldiers of the imperial service, to assassinate the Sultan, at the Yildiz Kiosk, his palace. The attempt was frustrated by attendants.

. . . The Haytian government has informed our State Department of its willingness to refer the claim of Bernard Campbell, an American citizen, to arbitration. The claim is for \$100,000, and grew out of injuries which he received from being beaten by men who, he claims, were Haytian soldiers. It is understood that our government is ready to accept arbitration in the case.

. . . The Dutch government was defeated on December 15th in the Chamber of Deputies, which by a vote of forty-six to forty-one refused to authorize the building of new warships. "Brave little Holland"!

. . . Peace has finally been signed in the Philippines. The insurgent chiefs handed their surrender to Gen. Rivera on December 15th, who accepted their submission in the name of the Spanish government. Hostilities were at once suspended, and the various groups at once gave themselves up with their arms, the chiefs stipulating only that they should have free pardon and money with which to emigrate. Both these conditions were granted.

Hawaiian Annexation.

HON. GEORGE S. BOUTWELL'S SPEECH
BEFORE THE BOOT AND SHOE CLUB OF BOSTON,
DECEMBER 22, 1897.

As I was forewarned by the gentleman from whom I received your invitation to meet the members of the Boston Boot and Shoe Club this evening, that the time for the discussion of the topic before us was limited to two hours, and that four persons were to participate in the debate, I have forecast the observations that I have had in mind that I might avoid the danger of trespassing upon the privileges of others who are to address you.

Since the organization of the government there have been four opportunities for the annexation of territory within continental lines, and all of them have been accepted. In the same period of time there have been three tenders of insular possessions, two of them without direct consideration in money, and all of them have been declined.

The first of these was the tender of the Sandwich Islands, made through our then Commissioner, Mr. Elisha H. Allen, in the year 1852. It was in the early months of Mr. Fillmore's administration, when Mr. Webster was Secretary of State.

Mr. Allen had been my acquaintance and friend from the year 1847, when we were associated as members of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, and as members also of an important Special Committee.

Upon his arrival in Boston he took lodgings at the Adams House where I was then living. Our meetings at the table and otherwise were frequent and it was then that I received from Mr. Allen the statement that he came with authority, *carte blanche*, from the king to tender the islands to the United States. There may have been terms and conditions, but none were mentioned by Mr. Allen. At the same time he informed me that the offer had been declined by Mr. Webster.

The treaty for the acquisition of the island of St. Thomas, that was negotiated by Mr. Seward in President Johnson's administration, was not ratified by the Senate. The cause of its failure, or the circumstances incident to its failure, have been the subject of controversy. The undertaking failed, and that controversy should not now be revived.

In General Grant's first term the country had an opportunity to acquire so much of the island of San Domingo as is known by that name. The terms of acquisition were favorable. The project was supported resolutely by General Grant, when his influence in the country had not suffered any serious impairment. The offer was re-